



## Don Raymond Fardig

December 28, 1953 - March 20, 2018

Don Raymond Fardig passed away peacefully on March 20, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, and his children, Lauren (Mulay), Amy (Mani), and Danny (Randi). He is also survived by his parents, Donald and Arlene, sister, Jude, brother, David, and four grandchildren, Mulay, Salimata, Bode and Leila, as well as many dear friends. "Digger" as he was affectionately known throughout his life, was born in Taylor, Michigan and grew up in hockey rinks throughout Southeastern Michigan, playing Junior A for the Red Wings, and 4 years of Varsity hockey and golf at the University of Michigan. A salesman of the best kind, he was known for his honesty, his integrity, his quick wit and his love for his family.

His passion for hockey is hereditary, and his love of the game led him from playing to coaching hockey for the past 20 years, beginning with the Michigan Ice Dogs, up until this season with Victory Honda Midget Major. One of the great joys of his life was coaching his son, Danny, and watching him follow in his footsteps to play hockey at U of M. Throughout the many hockey communities he traversed, he was known and celebrated for his contributions on and off the ice.

Digger was a dedicated husband, father and grandfather, who found his route through the world in a way that is unique. He got to see all 3 of his children grow up, graduate from college, get married and find their careers. He got to

spend quality time with all of his grandchildren, who loved him more than life itself. He was grateful for each day and each opportunity, and truly lived a rich life. He is an Ann Arbor legend, and will be missed by a large community of friends, family, colleagues, coaches, and players.

A celebration of his life will be held at Knight's Steakhouse at 2324 Dexter Rd., Ann Arbor, on Sunday, March 25th, from 1pm-5pm. The family is humbled and overwhelmed by the love and support from everyone. In lieu of flowers, an educational fund has been set up for his grandchildren's college education. Please direct contributions to Daniel Fardig through Raymond James - 330 Town Center Drive, Suite 100, Dearborn, MI 48126. Please contact 313-240-5099 with any questions. To leave a memory you have of Don, to sign his guestbook, or for more information or directions please visit [www.rbfhsaline.com](http://www.rbfhsaline.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Don Raymond Fardig*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Maryann, Danny- we were so sorry to hear! Praying for you and your family.*

*Tom and Leslie Glendening*

leslie glendening - March 29, 2018 at 09:33 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss MaryAnn and family. I thought of so many times that we did things throughout the years and a couple stand out more than others. I remember being mom the JF Kennedy golf team and that he drove us from school to the golf course everyday. Donny was at a Hockey game when he made the Junior Wings and I finally got my chance to play and won my first match(I was a Soph); the other guys on the team gave me the nickname KarlyDon after that, Donny won a lot f their matches and now his younger cousin was doing the winning when he wasn't there. It wasn't fun being called Karly, but Don was definitely a great thing. I remember playing plastic baseball in the backyard at Uncle Don's house, kids from all over would come to play there, it was the in spot. So many memories, he is obviously unforgettable, God bless you and your family. Karl Raymond Ready(Fardig).*

Karl Ready(Fardig) - March 27, 2018 at 06:50 PM

JC

“Digger”... just mentioning the name would make anyone who knew him smile. He had a zest for life and enjoyed every day and everyone.

*The hockey community lost a great friend and ambassador.*

*Always enjoyed our times together.*

*My son was also touched in knowing “Digger” with his days he played for him. Great experience!*

*To Mary Ann, Lauren, Amy and Danny my sincere condolences.*

*Joe Campbell*

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**Joe Campbell** - March 27, 2018 at 12:41 PM

WC

“ You are all in our thoughts and prayers. I had the pleasure of knowing Digger not through hockey, but through time at ML and RJA, the golf course, passion for our alma mater and watching Danny play at Yost. I was at Knights on Sunday. I am not at all surprised that getting into the building was nearly impossible. A true testament of who he was and how many people he touched with a smile, a joke and real compassion. We all better for knowing Digger. Walter Crosby. Go Blue!

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**Walter Crosby** - March 26, 2018 at 05:59 PM

RO

“ Dear Mary Ann, Lauren, Amy, Danny, and the Fardig Family -

*We are saddened to hear of Don’s passing, and our hearts go out to you in your time of sorrow. Don will be greatly missed!*

*With love, Rick and Gloria O’Neill*

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**Rick & Gloria O’Neill** - March 25, 2018 at 01:01 PM

CC

“ *I enjoyed kibitzing with Digger everytime I saw him at hockey games - always about beer! The World has lost a truly great guy. My Sincerest condolences to his family. May His Memory be Eternal.*  
*Chris Coury*

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**Chris Coury** - March 25, 2018 at 11:25 AM

PB

“ *Dear Danny and Randi,*

*Words cannot express our sadness at your father's passing. It is so difficult to lose a parent. We pray for peace for you two and your immediate family.*

*We never have as much time as we expect.*

*Peace to your hearts.*

*Love, Uncle Larry and Aunt Pat*

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**Pat Bogusz** - March 24, 2018 at 10:54 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Don Raymond Fardig.*



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March 24, 2018 at 10:14 PM

TB

“ Dear Fardig Family - We are so very sorry to hear about Digger's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. There are so many memories going back to college high-jinks, all the Kru opens (pulling Danny out of school), and lately cruising Crooked lake. Digger was a very big part of what makes Ann Arbor such a special place for all of us. He will be greatly missed.


The Barton Boys - March 24, 2018 at 06:26 PM



“ Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Don Raymond Fardig.



March 23, 2018 at 04:10 PM

 Nancy Davis

“ We are thinking of your family and are so sorry for the loss of Big Digger. He was such a warm, fun-loving person. We consider ourselves lucky to have known him over the years and to have been part of the same community. Much love to all the Fardigs.  
Steve and Nancy Davis

Nancy Davis - March 23, 2018 at 10:38 AM

DD

“ Dear Fardig Family,  
Very sorry to hear about the passing of Don. Always a welcome smile and a pleasant word to say as we grew older and to us boys when he was a young man. Mature beyond his years!  
I pray God's comfort to you and your family during this time of loss.  
Don DiComo & Family

Don DiComo - March 23, 2018 at 10:29 AM



“ *Sweet Liberty was purchased for the family of Don Raymond Fardig.*



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March 23, 2018 at 10:28 AM



“ *Digger was never without a smile and a kind word whenever we saw him! As far as professionalism he was available with any questions we ever had at any time! He will never be forgotten as a great friend! Love, the “bozos”. Mike and Sue Eves*

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**sueees** - March 22, 2018 at 10:45 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. We shared many good memories of Michigan Hockey with Digger. He will be missed.*

*Mabelle and Jim Kirk*

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**Jim and Mabelle Kirk** - March 22, 2018 at 10:22 PM



“ *We met Digger through Mike and Judy Jackson. He was a wonderful person. We'll always remember the dinner together with his family in Greek Town.*

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**Dan Micallef** - March 22, 2018 at 07:57 PM

TS

“ I did not know Don, but his sister Jude has been a friend since she lived in WA state. It was clear in conversations that he meant the world to her and her family. Having lost my own brother suddenly, I know how devastating this is to family and friends. Let his spirit live in your hearts and he will always be with you. Prayers for you, Jude, and your family.

Truly Smith - March 22, 2018 at 04:39 PM

DC

“ Rest in peace Digger, I will miss your friendship!

David A Comsa



David A Comsa - March 22, 2018 at 03:57 PM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Don Raymond Fardig.



March 22, 2018 at 02:41 PM

GE

“ Mary Ann, I am very sorry to hear of your loss. Praying for his eternal life and for your heart.

Genie Eardley - March 22, 2018 at 02:12 PM

KM

“ Mary Anne, Lauren, Amy, Danny and Family. I'm so shocked and heartbroken over the news of Digg's passing. I feel truly blessed to of had him in my life and call him my friend. He was truly one of a kind and a priceless human being. There are so many stories and so many memories, one that always comes up are the countless times he played golf with Mark and our son's, Myles, Kord and Blake....the halfway house will not be the same. We will miss you and Forever hold you close in our hearts. Thinking of you all. Kary Miller

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**Kary Miller** - March 22, 2018 at 01:32 PM

DR

“ Visiting with Digger was an annual highlight of M hockey golf outings. They'll never be the same. Thinking of his family!

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**Drew** - March 22, 2018 at 12:49 PM

GC

“ We are Deeply saddened by the news of your loss. Our family will never forget the help and encouragement Diggs gave to our son during his time at VH. We were all honored and blessed to have known him. Rest in Peace my friend.

*The Calderone Family*

*Gene, Carol, Annmarie & Tony*

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**Gene Calderone** - March 22, 2018 at 12:25 PM

JA

“ I’ve seen Digger a lot over the years and am lucky to have many good memories of him. My favorite thing about Digger is how much he loved his kids and Maryann. Sometimes he showed it in his own way but it was pretty obvious. He never just showed up to their life events throughout the years. He showed up with hugs and laughs and no socks. Love the Fardigs. May he Rest In Peace.

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**Jennie Adler** - March 22, 2018 at 12:20 PM

JH

“ We will all dearly miss Digger at our Thursday lunches, down at Coach and Four, and helping us with his generous advice. His gentle manner and humor gave us lots of laughs and enjoyment. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Judy and Kim Hart

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**Judy Hart** - March 22, 2018 at 12:03 PM

RP

“ I feel most fortunate to have known Don for 45 years. He was a loyal and true friend. He will be missed and forever remembered.  
Sparky

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**Rob Palmer** - March 22, 2018 at 11:59 AM

LG

“ I am so very sorry. May God's love give you comfort at this time.

Lloyd

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**Lloyd Grace** - March 22, 2018 at 11:43 AM